

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace the original Figure 2 with the attached replacement Figure 2 that includes the legend "Prior Art".

REMARKS

The above amendments and the following remarks are fully and completely responsive to the Office Action dated April 7, 2005. Claim 5 is pending in this application with claims 1-4 cancelled by the present Response. In the outstanding Office Action, Figure 2 was objected to; claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b); and claims 2 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). No new matter has been added. Claim 5 is presented for consideration.

Drawing Objection

The Office Action dated April 7, 2005 objected to Figure 2 as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(c) because it is not designated by the legend "Prior Art". Enclosed is a replacement sheet amending Figure 2 to include the legend "Prior Art". Therefore, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to Figure 2.

35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a)

Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Saito (U.S. Patent No. 6,018,352). Claims 2 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito in view of Nomizu (U.S. Patent No. 6,301,391). The cancellation of claims 1-4 renders these rejections moot.

New Claim

Claim 5 has been added by the present amendment to claim additional aspects of the present invention. Applicants have carefully reviewed the cited prior art and did not find all the elements recited in new claim 5. Accordingly, Applicants request consideration and allowance of new claim 5.

Conclusion

Applicants' amendments and remarks have overcome the objection and rejections set forth in the Office Action dated April 7, 2005. Specifically, Applicants' replacement drawing sheet for Figure 2 overcomes the objection to Figure 2. The cancellation of claims 1-4 renders moot the rejections of these claims under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a). Applicants' remarks have also distinguished new claim 5 from the cited prior art. Accordingly, claim 5 is in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request consideration and allowance of claim 5.

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney by telephone if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge payment for any additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper to our Deposit Account No. 01-2300, making reference to attorney docket number 024629-00004.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures: Replacement Sheet (Figure 2)

TECH/301184.1